

MARCH 1961

MAGAZINE OF THE



NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY

PRICE 6d

SPASTICS NEWS



MISS AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY CENTRES

NATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CENTRES

THE THOMAS DELARUE SCHOOL

Dene Park, Tonbridge, Kent.
Telephone: Tonbridge 3859.

Headmaster:

H. B. Davies, Esq., B.Sc. (Econ.).

Chairman of the Board of Governors:
Douglas Delarue, Esq., J.P.

Secondary Modern and Grammar Education for Spastics of 11 years and over.
Accommodation 66.

IRTON HALL SCHOOL

Holmrook, Cumberland.
Telephone: Holmrook 242.

Headmaster:

A. Lubran, Esq., M.R.S.T., A.A.O.T.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
J. D. Herd, Esq.

Education for Spastics reputed to be below average intelligence.

Accommodation: 34.

THE "SHERRARDS" TRAINING CENTRE

Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.
Telephone: Welwyn Garden 2125.

Principal: E. L. Knight, Esq.

Chairman of the Management Committee:

The Hon. Lady Bowes Lyon.

Vocational Training Centre for young adult Spastics.

Accommodation: 31.

THE CRAIG-Y-PARC SCHOOL

Pentyrch, Nr. Cardiff.
Telephone: Pentyrch 397.

Headmistress:

Mrs. C. M. Kearslake.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
Miss M. B. Jowett, M.B.E.

Primary Education for Spastics between 5 and 16 years.

Accommodation: 49.

HAWKSWORTH HALL

Guiseley, Leeds, Yorks.
Telephone: Guiseley 2914.

Principal: J. D. Johnson, Esq.
Assessment Centre for Spastic children between 5 and 13 years.

Accommodation: 24.

DARESBURY HALL RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Daresbury, Nr. Warrington, Lancs.
Telephone: Moore 359.

Warden: F. W. Bellman, Esq.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
George Evans, Esq.

Residential Centre for Male Spastics aged from 16 to 35 years.

Accommodation: 26.

THE WILFRED PICKLES SCHOOL

Tixover Grange, Duddington,
Nr. Stamford. Telephone: Duddington 212.

Headmaster:

R. A. Pedder, Esq.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
Eric Smith, Esq.

Primary Education for Spastics between 5 and 16 years.

Accommodation: 60, 12 Day Pupils.

COOMBE FARM RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Oaks Road, Croydon, Surrey.
Telephone: Addiscombe 2310.

Warden: F. W. Bowyer, Esq., M.A.

Chairman of the Management Committee:
R. Meek, Esq.

Residential Centre for Spastics aged from 16 to 25 years. Accommodation: 41.

PRESTED HALL & THE GRANGE

Feering, Kelvedon, Essex.
Telephone: Kelvedon 482.

Warden: J. H. Watson, Esq.

Chairman of the Management Committee:

Miss Mary Ruck, R.R.C.

Residential Centre for Spastics aged from 25 to 40 years. Accommodation: 31.

THE GRANGE:

High Street, Kelvedon.

Accommodates 13 Spastics over the age of 40 years.

NATIONAL HOLIDAY HOTELS ARUNDEL PRIVATE HOTEL

23, The Leas, Westcliff-on-Sea.

Telephone: Southend 476351.

Manageress: Miss M. Burden.

Chairman of the Management Committee:

H. F. Savage, Esq., J.P.

Hotel for Spastics and accompanying relatives or friends. Accommodation: 19

Write to Manageress for bookings.

S.O.S. HOLIDAY HOTEL FOR SPASTIC CHILDREN

Colwall Court, Bexhill.

Telephone: Bexhill 1491.

Manager: G. H. Marsh, Esq.

Accommodation: 23.

LOCAL CENTRES AND CLINICS

In close co-operation with Local Authorities and/or Hospital Management Committees, the following Groups provide or assist special schools and/or treatment centres:

Hull	Portsmouth
Northampton	Reading
Nottingham	Southend-on-Sea
Pontefract	Swindon

Working independently, the following Groups have set up special schools or treatment centres:

Birkenhead	Leicester
Bolton	Plymouth
Cheltenham	Stockport

Operating entirely by voluntary contributions, the following Groups have treatment centres with or without nursery

classes. Some of these centres operate every day, others only part time:

Bedford	North Stafford
Bridgwater	(Stoke)
Brighton	Oldham
Chesterfield	Oxford
Croydon	Poole and Bournemouth
Epping Forest	South West Middlesex
Gillingham	South West Surrey
Grimsby	Swansea
Ipswich	Urmston
Luton	Wycombe and
Maidstone	District
North London	York

The following Groups have, what might be termed, special occupation centres and,

in some cases, treatment is available together with speech therapy:

Cardiff	Ilford
Bristol	Scunthorpe
Crews	Southampton
Dudley	Sale

What might be termed Welfare Departments, mainly designed to assist older Spastics, are operated by the following:

Bradford	Nottingham
Halifax	Widnes
N.W. London	

Work centres, varying in scope have been opened for adults by the following:

Bedford	Kingston-on-Thames
Croydon	N.W. Kent (Erith)
Central Middlesex	Stockport
Central Surrey	Swansea

Holiday homes are run by the following Groups:—

Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness, at Allonby, Maryport; Hull at Bridlington.

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FRONT COVER

ONCE AGAIN MISS AUSTRALIA is with us and SPASTICS NEWS has taken the opportunity of having a glamorous cover girl.

Twenty-four-year-old Miss Rosemary Fenton is pictured on the cover arriving at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square, to attend an Australia Day commemoration service.

Rosemary, a tall green-eyed beauty with auburn hair, is this year's winner of a nation-wide competition, which has raised over half a million pounds, in the last six years, for Australian spastic children.

(Solution to February Crossword)

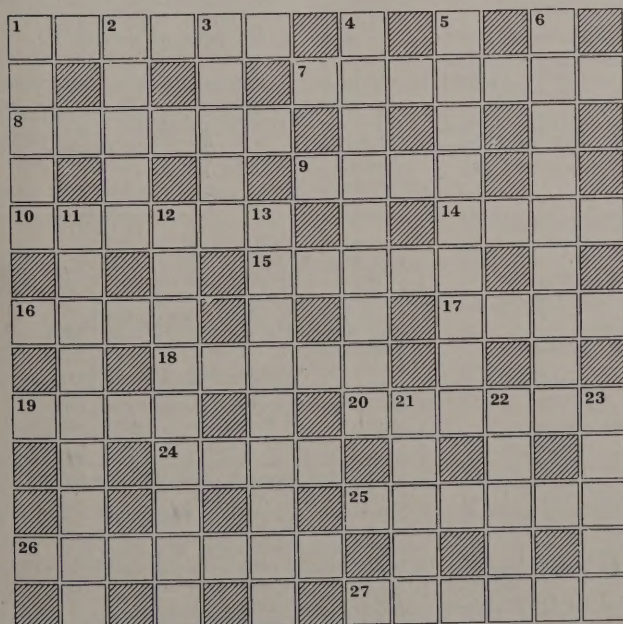
ACROSS	DOWN
4. Exposed	1. Stiletto
8. Tilbury	2. Plunging
9. Epergne	3. Nutbrown
10. Longbow	4. Eyewash
11. Arizona	5. Premier
12. Tailors	6. Signora
13. Harvard	7. Diehard
17. Organs	14. Angelus
21. Paganism	15. Vinegar
22. Buddha	16. Restore
23. Religion	18. Reuben
24. Sextet	19. Audits
25. Asserted	20. Sparta

All Australia enters for this competition in which fund-raising for spastic children is the qualifying condition for entries.

Visiting Gt. Britain is part of a round-the-world prize trip which began in Singapore at the New Year.

We're always happy to see you, Miss Australia!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 11



ACROSS

- Trick—to clean up a dope ring possibly. 6.
- The language that upsets 26. 7.
- The weapon that's loaded with slugs! 6.
- The "option" in a magisterial sentence. 4.
- Searches playfully. 6.
- Uncommon underdone! 4.
- Faint-hearted accent. 5.
- Behold an outsize in capitals. 4.
- "O! my offence is . . . , it smells to heaven;" Hamlet. 4.
- Paul and I soon account for the dish. 5.
- That ass responsible for the leakage? 4.
- Behind the curtain, it's capital! 6.
- It facilitated Pan's piping. 4.
- For a consideration he'll do your will! 6.
- For whom every man is, in a rout. 7.
- Father's attempt at baking. 6.

DOWN

- The little fellow has no peace of heart. 5.
- A composer of drive. 5.
- Cast off a little food. 5.
- Peace usually expires with this. 9.
- Whalers consider it treasure. 9.
- In theory it's a world language. 9.
- Herein is stored the main supply. 9.
- The very last thing in daily papers. 9.
- Letty slid in stiff, awkward, fashion. 9.
- A ham turns up in a U.S.A. town. 5.
- Vault and shout "gym"! 5.
- Don't do it, it only ends in ulcers! 5.

NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY

Registered in accordance with the National Assistance Act, 1948

28 FITZROY SQUARE
LONDON, W.1.

Telephone: EUSton 5651

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Prince Philip Professor of Paediatric Research,
University of London

Research Fellow:

Dr ALISON D McDONALD, MD

Research Consultative Board:

SIR CHARLES SYMONDS, KBE, CB, MD, FRCP
Neurological Department, Guy's Hospital
(Chairman)

FOR YOUR DIARY

A PART from his attendance at Employment Assessment Courses and administrative duties at headquarters, Mr. W. M. Hargreaves, the Industrial Liaison Officer, will be speaking at meetings in the following towns:

March 6th, 5.30 p.m. Disablement Advisory Committee at Tooting.

March 8th, 8 p.m. Youth Employment Committee, Southall.

March 13th until 24th. Assessment Course at the Arundel Hotel, Westcliff-on-Sea.

April 5th, 1 p.m. Inner Wheel luncheon, Bootle.

April 10th to 14th inclusive. Engaged to speak by the Ministry of Labour in the North-West area of England, to Disablement Advisory Committees and Rotary Clubs.

April 20th, 7 p.m. Disablement Advisory Committee, Letchworth.

Miss Shirley Keene, the Society's lecturer has the following engagements:

March 1st, 3 p.m. Perivale Park, Free Church Congregational Women's League, Greenford, Middx. 5.30 p.m. Avery Hill Training College, Bexley Road, Eltham, London, S.E.9.

March 3rd, 3.30 p.m. Convent of the Sacred Heart, Digby Stuart College, Roehampton, London, S.W.15.

March 6th, 8 p.m. Romford Baptist Church, Main Road, Romford.

March 7th, 7.30 p.m. Stoke-sub-Hamdon Parent Teacher Association, Stoke-sub-Hamdon, near Yeovil, Somerset.

March 9th, 3 p.m. St. Albans (Afternoon) Townswomen's Guild, The Faulkner Hall, Victoria Street, St. Albans.

March 13th, 8 p.m. Priory Ladies' Club, St. Peter's Junior School, Old London Road, St. Albans.

March 14th, 7.30 p.m. St. Mark's Young Wives' Group, Battersea London.

March 15th, 3 p.m. Women's Gas Federation, Stoke-on-Trent Branch, Demonstration Room, Gas Service Centre, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

March 15th, 16th or 17th. Evening—Stafford & District Spastics Association (Further information soon).

Prof J D BOYD, MD, MSc
Anatomy School, University of Cambridge
Dr J H CROSLAND, MRCS, D Phys Med
30 Weymouth Street, London

Prof J N CUMINGS, MD, FRCP
National Hospital, Queen Square, London
Prof P M DANIEL, MA, MB
Department of Neuropathology, Maudsley Hospital, London
Dr P R EVANS, MD, MSc, FRCP
Department of Child Health, Guy's Hospital, London
MISS N GIBBS, MA
Child Guidance Training Centre, Osnaburgh Street, London

Prof R S ILLINGWORTH, MD, FRCP
Department of Child Health, University of Sheffield
Dr J D KERSHAW, MD, DPH
Public Health Department, Colchester

Prof ALAN MONCRIEFF, CBE, MD, FRCP, FRCOG
Institute of Child Health, Hospital for Sick Children, Gt. Ormond Street, London

March 20th, 1 p.m. Rotary Club of Tunbridge Wells, Cadena Café, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells. 8 p.m. Croxley Green Women's Co-operative Guild, Co-op Hall, off New Road, Croxley Green, Herts.

March 21st, 2.45 p.m. Women's Fellowship, Collier Row Methodist Church, Clockhouse Lane, Romford, Essex.

March 24th, 4.20 p.m. Students Christian Movement, Howell's School, Llandaff, Glam.

March 27th, 9.15 a.m. Houseparents Course, Wilfred Pickles' School, Tixover Grange, Duddington, Nr. Stamford.

April 4th, 7.30 p.m. Harmondsworth Women's Institute, Harmondsworth, West Drayton, Middx.

April 5th, 3 p.m. King Farm Congregational Women's Fellowship, Gravesend, Kent.

April 10th, 7 p.m. Sheffield Branch, Royal College of Midwives, Nether Edge Hospital, Sheffield 11.

April 11th, 8 p.m. Datchet Women's Institute (venue not known), Datchet, Bucks.

April 12th, 8 p.m. St. James-at-Bowes Young Wives' Club, Arcadian Gardens, High Road, Wood Green, London N.22.

April 13th, 2.30 p.m. Willingdon Women's Institute, Memorial Hall, Willingdon, near Eastbourne, Sussex.

April 18th, 3 p.m. St. John's Congregational Church Women's Fellowship, Church Hall, Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

April 19th, 2.30 p.m. St. Mary's Young Wives Group, Merton, S.W.19.

April 26th, 3 p.m. Inner Wheel Club of Erith, Royal Oak Hotel, Erith, Kent.

April 27th, 7.30 p.m. Parent Teachers' Association, Barrow Primary School, Barrow, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

April 29th, 2.45 p.m. Norfolk and Norwich Spastics Association, A.G.M.

[If any reader would like the services of the lecturers at any specific meeting, please write in to LECTURERS, NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY, 28 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1.—Ed.].

Prof W C W NIXON, MD, FRCS
Obstetric Hospital, University College Hospital, London

Dr G PAMPIGLIONE, MD, MRCP
EEG Dept, The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London

Prof L S PENROSE, MA, MD, FRS
Galton Laboratory, University College, London
Dr C G PHILLIPS, MA BSc, DM, MRCP
Department of Physiology, University of Oxford

Prof B S PLATT, CMG, PhD, MB
Human Nutrition Research Unit, National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill, London

Dr D D REID, MD, PhD
Department of Epidemiology and Vital Statistics, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Prof JAMES WALKER, MD, FRCOG
Department of Midwifery and Gynaecology, University of St. Andrews, Scotland

Prof O L ZANGWILL, MA
Department of Psychology, University of Cambridge

from the Mailbag

FURTHER REFLECTIONS ON FITZROY SQUARE

Dear Editor,

What a picture of peace and tranquillity is portrayed in the photograph of Fitzroy Square in the January issue of SPASTICS NEWS, and how it is belied by the true state of affairs in at least one of the houses—our own No. 28!

The door of this house is always open, and on entering one finds oneself in a narrow hall, piled high with boxes and packages for which no other home has been found. A busy hum of voices, the clatter of typewriters, and from time to time a terrific banging from some great machine located near the stairs, greets the visitor. He, or she, will receive prompt and courteous attention from the head and shoulders visible behind a small enquiry window, and then led to the department or person required.

If one descends to the basement, the "Seals" department is revealed. Standing on the stair, one beholds two rows of heads, facing each other, but divided by long partitions, bent busily over their work, slitting envelopes, extracting their contents, and disposing of them deftly into the appropriate pigeon holes. Major Martin, that hard-working man about whom we hear so little, presides over this over-crowded, draughty, uncomfortable department, with an abundance of understanding and humour. Thus, despite the almost Dickensian character of their surroundings, the "Seals" workers operate very happily.

Mr. White, that charming man of many occupations, ranging from packing and unpacking parcels, etc., to providing tea and delicious sandwiches for late and week-end committee meetings, also operates in the basement. His tiny cupboard-like room is always overflowing with post, and sometimes even the "Ladies" has to be utilised as a storage room!

This department is typical of the whole house, there is not a spare inch of space anywhere. So, sad though it will be to say "farewell, Fitzroy Square", one cannot but look forward with relief to a more spacious headquarters. And who knows, perhaps one day, alongside the blue plaque on No. 29, will appear another on No. 28, saying, "The National

Spastics Society lived here from its first year until 1961, surviving many teething troubles, but prospering."

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) DOROTHY HUNTINGTON,
Suffolk.

"CHRISTINE" IN SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Editor,

In October 1959, when I was in England on furlough, Mr. Overland, the N.S.S. Box Supervisor, very kindly assisted me in obtaining a model of "Christine" for the use of our local Cripple Care & Spastics Society.

I am writing to let you know what a wonderful response there has been from the public to the plea of "Christine". Our little town has only approximately 12,000 white inhabitants and about the same number of coloured people. Yet in the year just passed about £90 was raised. Our local Cripple Care Committee were astounded that such an amount was possible, with so little effort.

There was even a write-up in our small local newspaper called "Christine—the most kissed girl in town". It is no uncommon sight to see children, of all races, putting their little arms around her and kissing her before placing a coin in her box.

Yours sincerely,
Rev. A. WHITTAKER,
Rustenburg,
South Africa.

CONCERT AT POOLE

Dear Editor,

I recently had the privilege of attending a concert at the Poole and Bournemouth Spastic Centre. Imagine my surprise when I discovered that we were to be

entertained with items from a percussion band, and songs. All the children taking part had disabilities which prevented them from doing most of the things that other children do, and the majority of them had speech difficulties as well. The joy on one little boy's face was wonderful to see as he played the cymbals which were strapped to his foot; his timing was excellent.

How fortunate the centre is, to have the splendid services of Miss Nancy Dickinson, A.R.A.M., who gives her time each week quite voluntarily. She is able to inspire her pupils and gets excellent results.

May I be allowed to pay a sincere tribute to all those who help at the centre. We are very lucky indeed to have such people in our Borough.

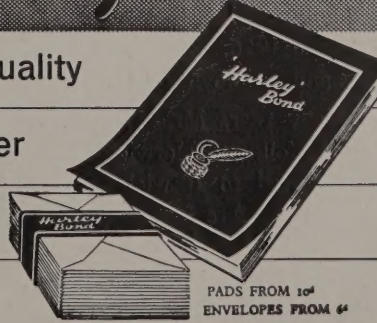
Yours sincerely,

(Cllr.) ELSIE HICKINSON, J.P.
Poole, Dorset.

Yours ...
for a better letter

Harley Bond

a high quality
notepaper



PADS FROM 10¢
ENVELOPES FROM 6¢

MDH 1959

COUNTRY WIDE *From our roving reporter*



THE RECORD STAR SHOW

TO HELP SPASTICS

THE Record Star Show, first held in March 1956 and organised by the Stars Organisation for Spastics, has been hailed by the press as "the most fantastic concert success in the history of Showbiz".

This year, the sixth Record Star Show is being held on Sunday, March 26th, at the Empire Pool, Wembley, where the 7,500 available seats make it the largest hall that can be found. Emboldened by past success, the S.O.S. is putting on two shows, one commencing at 2 and the other at 6 p.m.

The Record Star Show is, of course, a concert in which all the performers are top recording artistes, who give their services free as a gift to the S.O.S. Although it is difficult to make an early announcement of all the names of the artistes, enough firm promises have been received to ensure success. To date these come from ALMA COGAN, RUSS CONWAY, ADAM FAITH, VERA LYNN, JOHN BARRY SEVEN, BERT WEEDON and Mr. ACKER BILK.

Tickets cost 21s., 15s., 12s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d. and 5s. and all seats are bookable. Applications to the Hon. Secretary, Record Star Show, 26 Charlotte Street, London, W.1. Tickets cannot be reserved by telephone or letter and are sent *only* in exchange for cash (cheque, money order or postal order, crossed and made payable to "S.O.S.") accompanied by a stamped reply envelope if tickets are booked by post.

Early application is advisable as thousands of tickets have already been sold.

Mrs. Huntington Resigns

It is with regret that we say good-bye to Mrs. D. A. Huntington who has been a member of the Executive Committee since 1956. She was also a member of the Central, Projects and Employment Committees.

For many years Mrs. Huntington was an ardent worker for the Norfolk and Norwich Spastic Association. Now that she has moved to Ipswich, the Ipswich and East Suffolk Spastics Society are fortunate in having the support of such an enthusiast.

We should like to extend to Mrs. Huntington our very good wishes for the future and hope that we may continue to meet her from time to time at Society functions.

Hitch-Hike for Donkeys

An S.O.S. on behalf of two donkeys, Sally and Mimmie, who needed a lift has now been answered. They were presented to Hawksworth Hall by Miss Jane Burton of Weston House, Albury, Nr. Guildford, but she had no transport available.

Thanks to the kindness of a Clayton farmer and haulage contractor, Mr. Albert Pickup, who offered his Land Rover and horse box and Mr. Bill Dodds, from Baildon, who agreed to drive it, the donkeys arrived safely. They will now spend the rest of their lives as pets of the 24 children at Hawksworth Hall.

Mimmie, the elder and said to be 45 years' old, is well-known. For many years she drew the cart of Tinker Smith as he went his rounds grinding knives and doing odd jobs for Guildford and Godalming householders.

Despite the fact that the Concise Oxford Dictionary describes them as a "grotesque spout . . . projecting from gutter of (esp. Gothic) building to carry water clear of wall" these two gargoyles still retain their air of superciliousness. Not even being taken from their rightful place—together with two others surrounding the 38 ft. spire of the Unitarian Church, Pudsey—can move them. Here they are being examined by Mr. E. Cook of Bradford and will eventually be sold in aid of local spastics. They had to be removed because the spire had become dangerous and is being lowered to the level of the roof.

Film: The Brooklands Experiment

Mentally Handicapped Children Growing Up. The Brooklands Experiment is the title of a film sponsored by the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children. An experiment was conducted to see whether greater development of verbal ability and social behaviour occurred when 16 children were taken out of the wards of a mentally handicapped children's institution and cared for in two small family units.

During two years the children became happier reacting to their environment in the same way as normal children. The film shows very clearly the change in their attitude and at the end the contrast is underlined by again showing children in the institution.

This film is available for professional use at a hire rate of £4 4s. It is a 16 mm film, in black and white with a sound commentary. Running time—20 minutes and a leaflet is provided with the film.



A smiling face, familiar to many spastics who have been found jobs in commerce and industry, is Mr. David Clifton (right), principal of the Tickopres Training School. To mark his outstanding service with Tickopres Ltd., he was presented with a handsome canteen of cutlery by the managing director, Mr. F. J. Briggs, at London's Connaught Rooms. Mr. Clifton lives at Edgware, Middlesex, where he is well-known in church and scouting circles.

Courtesy: Lewisham Borough News Photo Service

Some of the Cub pack of the 11th Forest Hill Scout Group gather round to admire the Meritorious Medal presented to "Rikki" recently for his work on behalf of scouting. With the medal was a certificate stating that the presentation was made "in recognition of courage, fortitude and devotion to duty despite a great handicap". Thirty-eight-year-old Richard John Coxhead is a chair-bound spastic and for 13 years has been a member of the Forest Hill Group where most of his time has been spent training Cubs. The medal was not just for sitting in a chair. Rikki had shown qualities of capability that had got him through great difficulties and his example had shown others how to climb over their stiles.



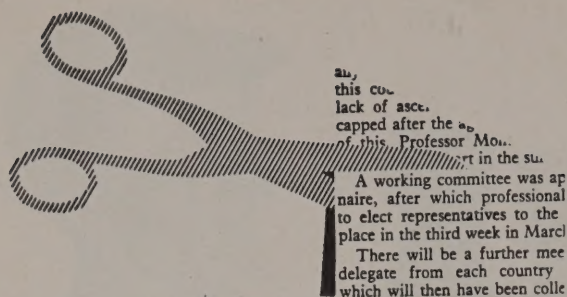
Courtesy: "The Yorkshire Post"

Shrewsbury's Friends

Mr. George Evans, of Winstanslow, Shropshire, has been running whist drives every winter for the last five years at villages in South Shropshire, and has raised over £1,000 for the Shrewsbury and District Spastics Group. Last winter, he ran 14 whist drives and raised over £306.

This excellent sum was recently handed over to the president, Capt. Sir Offley Wakeman, by Mr. Evans at a social evening. At the same time Mrs. A. Cookson, of Picklescott, Shropshire, presented over £80 in cash which was the result of a sale and dance held at her village of Picklescott. It's nice to have friends!





NEWS IN BRIEF

Brighton:—*Brighton Evening Argus.*

Seventy-five-year-old bespectacled Sam Pollock just can't help making a business tick, although he has retired. Eighteen months ago he started collecting silver paper "to help a jolly good cause". Now he has 15 helpers working for him, bringing in each month six cartons of silver paper, and milk bottle tops for spastics.

At Brighton's Park Royal Hotel, where he lives, Sam said "Once the word got around, there were plenty of people who were willing to collect for me." Who says that people today aren't still the "tops?"

Bristol:—*Bristol Evening World.*

Bristol Spastics Association will need a lot more money to support their new spastics' work centre at Horfield when it opens. It already costs them about £4,000 a year to run their centre at Stratton Street, and they estimate that the new one will cost at least £7,000 a year. Work is due to commence soon, thanks to the money raised at the charity ball and door-to-door collections. This money also enabled various modifications to the workshop to be carried out.

In order to raise money this year, the association are sending out appeals based on seven-year covenants. The campaign was launched recently at a reception in the Royal West of England Academy, where the guest of honour was the association's patron, the Duchess of Beaufort.

Stamford:—*Lincoln and Stamford Mercury.*

Fifteen children from the Wilfred Pickles' School were entertained recently by the Young Mothers' Club at King's Cliffe. After tea the Girls' Club presented "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".

Loughborough:—*Loughborough Monitor.*

A gaolbird with a difference is Mack, a talking Indian Hill Mynah. He has been to prison—entertaining inmates—and so has helped the spastics, cancer relief, and other worthy causes. Mack belongs to Mr. Wallace Dyson, the chairman of the Loughborough & District Budgerigar and Foreign Bird Society. At the society's fifth annual dinner at the Great Central Hotel, Mr. Dyson said the bird was just one example of the way in which the society was willing to co-operate and help others. Mr. Dyson is prepared to loan his talking bird, which he has had for three years, to any group which might benefit by having it.

Ilford:—*Ilford Pictorial.*

Ilford and District Spastics Association has a lively and energetic president in Miss Maudie Edwards. Rarely does she miss an event in the association's busy programme. On a recent visit to the Ilford Centre, Miss Edwards presented the children with a large beautifully furnished dolls house, and every boy's dream of a toy fort. "Both will give delight to the children, especially to those who can't run about. In the summer they will be able to take them out on the centre's lawns and play to their heart's content," said Mrs. Cecily McCaul, secretary of the association.

Manchester:—*Manchester Evening Chronicle.*

"The biggest catch ever taken from the Macclesfield Canal". That's how Mr. T. G. Grey, chairman of the Manchester & District Spastics Society, described the £140 raised by Walness Socials when they presented to him a cheque for that amount—the proceeds of their charity fishing match on the canal at Bollington.

Merthyr Tydfil:—*Merthyr Express.*

The sixth annual ball of the Merthyr Tydfil and District Spastics Society was held at the Palace Ballroom. The Mayor, Ald. C. E. Webb, B.E.M., J.P., president of the committee, and 350 guests attended. Mr. K. Jones, general secretary, said that the proceeds from the ball took the society's funds to over £10,000 which, with a grant from the N.S.S., will be used to build a treatment and education centre in Merthyr for the children. The society hopes to begin work on the centre within a year.

Leeds:—*Yorkshire Evening Post.*

Mr. A. Eccleston, of Tresco, Scotton Drive, Knaresborough, chairman of Leeds and District Spastics Society, writes: "We are anxious to obtain about 150 to 200 sq. ft. of storage space near the centre of Leeds. If any reader can lend or let such storage space, I should be grateful if they would contact me at the above address (Tel. Knaresborough 2029) or telephone Leeds 24110 during business hours."

Paignton:—*Paignton Observer.*

The Parish Church Handbell Ringers found a tuneless way of raising money and had a busy time over the Christmas season, visiting hotels, public houses, and a holiday camp. Twenty-five-year-old Mr. John Kelly is the captain and oldest member of the team. He began bellringing at the age of eleven and says that it takes at least six or eight months to become an experienced handbell ringer. The team's youngest member is 15-year-old Gillian Kemp. Started by the Parish Church bellringers in 1955, the team's places have since been filled by the younger generation who have carried it on.

Proceeds from their visits went to the Dame Hannah Rogers School, among other charities.

Edinburgh:—*Edinburgh Evening News.*

A major step towards the "brighter horizon" of their motto will be taken when a new venture starts at Rhuemore, the out-patients department in Corstorphine Road, of the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics. A former garage now used as a woodwork shop will become a laundry, manned by spastics whose handicaps prevent them undertaking regular employment in the open market. The laundry will be the culmination of four years' dreaming and planning by Miss Jane Errington, senior occupational therapist at Rhuemore.

There will be room in the laundry, it is estimated, for 12 washing machines and drying equipment. The establishment will be like a launderette, but with the work done by the 12

men and women who will find jobs there. Later it is hoped to start a collection and delivery service, and if the scheme flourishes, to extend to larger premises with perhaps pressing and ironing added.

Sale:—*Manchester Evening Chronicle.*

Sale, Altrincham and District Society have been dabbling in magic in order to raise money for a £2,500 swimming bath! Magicians from the Manchester Magic Circle visited the headquarters in Harboro Road, Sale, for the society's "magic" evening. We heard the wizards put their audience in the best of "spirits" . . .!

Torquay: "Bill Brewer, Jan Stewer, Peter Gurney, Peter Davey, Dan'l Whiddon, Harry Hawk, the Spastic Fund and all . . ." benefited from the 1960 Widdecombe Fair.

(With apologies to "Widdecombe Fair"—Oxford Book of Ballads.)

Derby:—*Derby Evening Telegraph.*

The Planning Committee of Sheffield Regional Hospital Board has recommended approval of a scheme sponsored by Derby and District Branch of the N.S.S., to provide a wooden hut at the rear of the physiotherapy department of Derbyshire Royal Infirmary. Pending the provision of a permanent spastics centre, the hut would be used to provide improved facilities for children who attend the department daily. The cost of the building, together with fees and equipment, would be met by the branch.

Portsmouth:—*The Evening News, Portsmouth.*

The public bar of the Wicor Mill at Porchester took on an unusual appearance when members of the local Beacon Club entertained 30 spastic children from Portsmouth and the surrounding district.

Councillor J. Simpson welcomed the children, and the chairman of Portsmouth and District Spastic Society, Mr. L. A. Hanson, thanked all those who had contributed. Since its formation in August 1959, the Beacon Club has raised more than £140 on behalf of the N.S.S.

The Society is very pleased to announce that work will shortly be starting on their sheltered workshop. It is hoped that it will be in use by Whitsun. Efforts are now being concentrated upon obtaining the necessary staff to administer the centre.

Birmingham:—*Birmingham Post.*

A wine and cheese tasting party was given by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Neale for members of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club in Birmingham. The proceeds of over £35 went to the local spastics' home.

Isle of Wight:—*Isle of Wight County Press.*

Wilfred Pickles, Mabel and Harry, the famous trio of that B.B.C. ever-green "Have a Go", recently visited Ryde. An audience of between 500 and 600 at the Town Hall joined in the family programme which has been bringing the "people to the people" for more than 15 years. After the broadcast Wilfred attended a dance at the Hotel Ryde Castle, arranged by the Isle of Wight Group. He con-

gratulated members on the splendid work they were doing, and handed the group's chairman, Mr. E. G. Peters, a cheque for £5 which had been given by the Mayor of Ryde.

Glasgow:—*Daily Record and Mail.*

A girl whose sums count, is ten-year-old Margaret Lacey. A couple of months ago Margaret saw a film about spastic children and decided she wanted to become a doctor. She asked her mother what she could do to help while she grew up, and Mrs. Lacey had an idea which would help spastics and Margaret. Each day when Margaret gets sums right at school her teacher gives her a signed line to take home to her mother. And into a little tin goes her reward . . . a penny. The pennies soon mount up, and Margaret hopes to have a pound by the summer.

Blackburn:—*Evening Telegraph.*

A new organisation has been formed in the area to help spastics. It is the Burnley Area and Rossendale Spastics Group, which aims at caring for the welfare of spastics in Burnley, Nelson, Colne, Padiham, Rossendale and Bacup.

Adult spastics, parents of spastic children and sympathisers are invited to get in touch with the secretary: Mr. John B. Suthren, at 561 Brunshaw Road, Burnley Lancs.

Dudley:—*The Morning Advertiser, London.*

A freak pound note—of the new issue type—has come to light in Dudley, Worcestershire. It was found among some change by Mr. William Westwood, whose immediate reaction to the discovery was "I've been swindled," when he saw what he thought was a plain piece of paper among some other money. Turning the note over, Mr. Westwood found that it was blank only on one side. Bank officials and police have assured him that the note is a freak and not counterfeit. Mr. Westwood now intends to sell the note to the highest bidder, and give some of the money he receives to charity, probably the spastics organisation.

THERE ARE NO

CRISPS

TO EQUAL

SMITH'S

FOR QUALITY AND FLAVOUR

EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGE OF THE E.S.N. SPASTIC

by Mrs. C. M. Kearslake, Headmistress, Craig-y-Parc School

DURING the last five years quite a number of cerebral palsied children of sub-normal intellect have been given an opportunity for education at schools opened by the National Spastics Society or other bodies, creeping as it were under the widening umbrella of education during the present more favourable climate of opinion towards backward children in general.

If our problems in educating cerebral palsied children of higher I.Q.'s are seriously perplexed by the gravity of their losses, than those of attempting education for children below I.Q. 75, are completely multifarious and justify an interpretation and orientation of education on substantially different lines.

Education for these children will necessarily differ in kind and degree, in time required, in quantity, and in the methods, materials, and procedures used.

In evaluating the aims of our attempts at education it seems to me that some of the most important considerations for this group are:—

First—To stabilise them, to induce a better adjustment to life within the limitations of their understanding and handicap, and this first step includes redress of the emotional and personality disturbances so often present.

Secondly—To socialise them; that is, to give specific attention to acquiring reasonable behaviour beginning first with personal improvements and extending to the development of good social attitudes outwards towards others.

Thirdly—To provide a series of meaningful experiences, especially geared at low level to suit the individual child, which will meet the maturational deficits so often present, with a view to developing educational readiness later if possible.

To consider the first of these aims—the securing of emotional stability for the E.S.N. child—we may be often faced with very serious problems of maladjustment.

Low intellect, wrong handling and bad relationships with parents and siblings, physical frustrations from lack of ability for play and sense training at satisfying levels, may result in the E.S.N. C.P. entering the classroom as a very objectionable being indeed.

Distractibility may follow a more pernicious and less reducible pattern than with the higher grade C.P. child, the attentions span appears to be even shorter. The disinhibited child often wanders incessantly, chatters in gibberish, appears unable to absorb the counselling of the teacher, and is generally a complete disturbance to the already frail concentration of the rest of the group.

Sadder still is the withdrawn E.S.N. child who comes in as an under-experienced under-praised, under-privileged child, often totally rejected at home, who has given up making any response towards living and is actually passed into a completely vegetable frame of mind.

The rate of adjustment under remedial social adjustment—procedures may be very small, and in some cases the child may have to be removed from his group, for periods of intensive personal help and advising, before he can develop right relationships towards the group.

It is essential that the whole school team are entirely agreed on the psychological approach to be used and that no member violates this common approach, when it has once been crystallised, or the confusion to a child struggling to acquire stabilisation may be increased.

The attempts of specialists to assess such children will be bedevilled by the low intellect and lack of co-operation available, and often we have to manage with the best assessment which can be made under the circumstances, and the close observations of the teacher must fill in the gaps.

Auditory training and forms of orthoptic training which might have been helpful often have to be abandoned because of this lack of native ability to co-operate.

In deciding what types of intellectual experiences we shall first introduce into the classroom training, it becomes evident that the very uneven development of the child must first be considered.

Thus a child of 12 years of age may have a mental age of six, a social age of three or four, and an emotional and interest age of approximately seven to eight years.

A study of the works of Jean Piaget is very useful in assessing what stage of general maturation the child may have reached.

Piaget analyses development of the normal child into four stages.

First. The Sensori—Motor Stage

This takes place for the normal child at 0-2 years and includes exploration with the hands, mouth, feet, rolling, crawling, touching, handling, dropping, banging, listening, tasting, and generally getting into relation with the world outside by using part of the body.

The body is intermediate between the child and his environment, and the first impressions are gained by placing the two into contact with each other.

The Second Stage. This is the pre-operational stage taking place in the normal child between 2 and 7 years

This is the stage when ordinary perception governs. The child sees objects, learns to call them by their names and believes only what he sees.

Third Stage

In the third stage of development (taking place normally between the ages of 7 and 11 years) is the age of concrete operations. The child can form concepts and use reasoning, providing abundant concrete material and experiences are provided.

Fourth Stage

This is the adult reasoning stage which develops from 11 to 17 and upwards.

It becomes obvious that the E.S.N. cerebral palsied child may often be arrested at the first of these stages, that of motor-sensori development.

In many cases the lack of motor-sensori development will be the natural result of loss of manipulation and such children present a poor prospect for education in a special school, since the avenues through which we are most likely to improve them are automatically cut-off. Others are arrested at the motor-sensory stage through lack of stimulation, and for these, remedial measures can be instituted.



Visman Apparatus

The remedial sensory training of the E.S.N. children normally includes most of the elements of the nursery school—that is, sand and water play, modelling in plasticene, clay dough, wax or fine wire or any such medium.

If the child has tactile ability left to him he can learn to feel many fabrics to discover difference between textures, to get feelings of liquids and solids, hot and cold, and by having his hands placed around many objects of different shapes can begin to gain appreciations of shape, height and weight.

The tastes and smells of common plants and foods, comparison of many different sizes of articles, of different colours, will all assist in building up a bank of meaningful personal experiences as a platform to educational readiness.

With the older E.S.N. child, the use of sensory training through modelling and handwork connected with projects and centres of interest, rather than through purely play methods, will prevent him from the indignity of using “baby” mediums as he may subconsciously consider them.

For the E.S.N. who eventually reaches the second stage of development as outlined by Piaget, that is, the perceptive stage which is reached at mental ages of five to seven years, training at operational levels can be begun.

Manifold experiences with sorting and classifying simple interesting objects into groups, matching them for similarities of colour, and size and shape, handling them many times and working with other children in small intimate groups, working simple experiments, will prove profitable.

At the same time as the child is learning to gain meaningful impressions through sensory training and perception, his discussion around these processes will have begun the training of language which is the first real door to open out on to intellectual freedom.

Carlyle has told us:—

“Man is a tool-using animal with the gift of talk.”

How true this is in relation to maturation for these children.

True it is that many of these children have speech defects, various types of aphasia, lack of ability to integrate speech meaningfully in the brain which all help to make our task the harder.

Mental sluggishness, coupled often with the speech defect, encourages them to be content with grunting and mumbling their way through life, using monosyllables for short phrases and being quite satisfied to receive this bleak response back from classmates.

We have found that with these children the arts of conversation have to be constantly and consciously provoked.

If the classroom is warm and friendly and rich with sensation provoking experiences and activities, and great pains

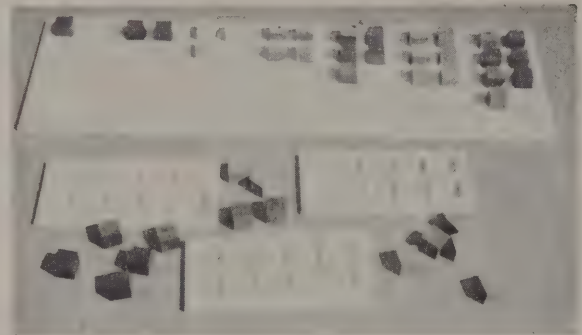
are taken to find out any of the very meagre interests which the child may be capable of developing, then these can often be magnified by constant references and discussion, until the child finds something to contribute in the way of comments. Thus, as most of these children are quite egocentric, a first attempt at reading and writing can often be made through the compiling of large albums in which their personal saga is written.

All that pertains to themselves and their homes, their families and possessions, their food, and their games, their likes and dislikes can be recorded with pictures and simple words over which they can trace and colour.

If the vocabulary which gradually builds up in this way is surrounded by kinaesthetic experiences, that is by saying the word constantly as it is written or typed or traced or modelled and painted and then recognised from flash cards it will eventually register in the mind through the combined forces of all the weakened perceptions the child still holds.

When a fair amount of such material can be recognised at sight or with the aid of phonic clues we have found E.S.N. child has reached reading readiness and can be found voluntarily seeking the library corner, where attractive picture books may tempt him a little further.

The E.S.N. child's response to number work is likely to be minimal but some are able to make a beginning at the acquiring of the usual cardinal, ordinal and classifying abilities, using the same painstaking realistic approach as with their sensory and language training.



Catherine Stern Apparatus

In summarising the salient points in relation to the group of E.S.N.'s we have handled, the following points have stood out:—

- (1) The inertia and apathy often shown do sometimes disappear when motivation is geared in a vivid fashion to the low level of development at which they are stagnated.
- (2) Very fine grading in the preparation of each new step of development together with abundant spread of practice at each level, is needed.
- (3) Activity and play methods as teaching techniques have to be used with care, or confusion can result.
- (4) Reading must be meaningful or it becomes barking at print and of no real value.
- (5) The platform to greater achievement is always success.

The child must be given success in some field no matter how little, and out of the first achievement, an appetite and aptitude for the next step can often be stimulated.

- (6) All education at this simple E.S.N. level needs to be directly confined to skills needed for living in relation to meaningful real life experiences.

In this education for living, social training must remain a matter of prime importance for the E.S.N. cerebral palsied child.

SCOUT CAMPS

Boy Scouts Association

THE Boy Scouts Association founded by Lord Baden Powell is known to everyone. From as young as the age of eight a boy can join. The cubs are 8 years to 11 years, scouts, 11-15, senior scouts 15-18, rover scouts 18-24. As well as these there are the specialised branches like the sea scouts and air scouts. It is not widely known, however, that handicapped boys can join any part of the movement. This movement runs camps all through the summer. There are those run fortnightly from July to September supplemented by week-end camps at Whitsun, Easter and other week-ends.

For information about how to join the movement in your area, write to the Imperial Headquarters, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, and you will be told the name of your local District Commissioner who is responsible for all scouting in his area.

Handicapped Scouting

An occasional news sheet "The Window" is produced by the movement interested in handicapped scouting. In its Christmas issue appeared a letter from John Garrett, Assistant District Commissioner describing his planning for scout camps:—

... "Since 1948 I have been running scout canvas camps every year for severely physically handicapped scouts in Leeds, Birmingham and now in South Wales.

"In 1960, we took 23 scouts and guides from my school Troop and Company to Coedarhydyglyn, near Cardiff. The field was flat with a hut built on it. Of the 23, 12 were wheelchair cases unable to move when out of chairs—the others were ambulant usually finding difficulty if the grass was too high. In charge were three male scouters and one lady scouter.

"Over the years I have arranged camps in many parts of the country.

"With one or two exceptions in the case of official sites, the sites have been chosen in the way all scout troops choose a site. The C.O.H. meet, decide what type of camp they want, draw up a list of areas they wish to visit and then the patrol leaders and myself go off and find a site.

Equipment

"This, I feel, is where we differ from an ordinary troop. We have a 30 ft. by 15 ft. marquee, and Icelandic tents. The latter are large and can take a stretcher across the tent so that there is room to move. There must be room in all tents for the scouters to get to each bed to help the boys and see that all are comfortable. My personal maxims for camp are:—

1. Good warm sleeping accommodation. We use sleeping bags, except in the case of the incontinent children when the scouters make up blanket beds with pins. We have used stretchers and palliasses and at this last camp we took Dunlopillo mattresses.

2. Good toilet arrangements. We have three excellent toilet tents (Blacks), in which we have Elsans. All the boys can visit these toilets in comfort.

3. Good hot food eaten in comfort. We take collapsible tables and eat in the marquee.

"I personally make sure that the above points are correct and from then on we adopt normal scout camp routine.

"We use three Bi-Alladin pressure lamps to provide warmth and heat. Also take paraffin heaters to camp to put in the marquee after a wet day to dry clothing overnight.

"We consider that our scout camps are as good as any ordinary scout camp and better than most. The boys obtain great benefit from the experience and are always anxious to go again next year. We have never turned a boy away from camp because of the severity of his handicap—though we naturally always consult the school's doctor at all times."

GUIDE CAMPS

The Girl Guide Association

The Girl Guide Association have similar facilities as the scouts. Their address is 17-19 Buckingham Palace Rd., London, S.W.1, and they will certainly be able to give further information.

N.S.S. SCHEME

Channel Island

JERSEY BRANCH

Every year the Jersey Branch of the N.S.S. provides free accommodation for 20 persons made up of spastics and their escorts. Fares are usually paid for by the groups to which they belong. As well as this, one or two of their friends also provide free holidays with fares being paid for by the various groups. So far this year the branch has been offered free accommodation for 14 persons.

The usual custom is for the party to travel by air and on their arrival free transport is laid on for the guests. Visits to the theatres and cinemas are just a few of the many outings the kind Jersey folk provide. They shower gifts and invitations on their guests and local artists give a concert which is followed by a party. But the highlight of the holiday is the barbeque which has been held with great success every year.

The Jersey sunshine and wonderful beaches are extremely popular and everyone who has visited the island under the scheme has been loud in his praise.

Mr. A. W. Filleul, the Hon. Secretary, writes, "We are a very active group and as there appears to be very few spastics over here we help spastics in England."

"We wish to stress most emphatically, however, that our scheme is intended for those who would not otherwise have a holiday."

At the moment Jersey Branch is very busy raising funds for their "Pool" project. A physiotherapy pool is being installed at the new E.S.N. school, Ingfield Manor, Nr. Horsham, Sussex, at a cost of approximately £3,000 which will be paid by the branch. Already over half the sum has been raised by bazaars, draws, jumble sales, donations and other fund-raising methods.

For further information about these holidays contact your local group secretary or Mr. A. W. Filleul, 70 Bath Street, St. Helier, Jersey, C.I.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

FOR FAMILIES WITH A MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILD

THE Advisory Committee of Youth Clubs for the Handicapped has very kindly sent in the following names and addresses where the mentally handicapped child is particularly welcome.

The Handicapped Children's Club aims to help handicapped children and young people in their leisure time so that they may develop as fully and happily as possible through regular games, sports and social activities adapted to their particular needs. New members and visitors are very welcome at every meeting.

For further information regarding clubs in your area please contact the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. B. Millwood, "Braeside", 18 Martin Rise, Bexleyheath, Kent. Tel: BEXleyheath 7331.

Anglesey

Mr. Richardson, "Fron Deg",
Amlwch Port, Anglesey.

Berkshire

Reading

Mrs. W. Hall, 48 Mayfair Park Lane,
Tilehurst. (One child acc. on its own).

Cornwall

Columb

Mrs. D. Lawry, "Mon Abu",
Blackcross Street.

Penzance

Mrs. D. Jarman, 12 St. Dominic Street,
B.B. & E.M. (Children welcome on their own).

Portreath

Mrs. G. M. Davey, Greenfield Villa,
Portreath, near Redruth. B.B. & E.M.

St. Austell

Mrs. M. Minear, 24 Poltarr Avenue,
B.B. & E.M.

St. Ives

Mrs. M. Poynter, 45 Theverbyn Road,
B.B. & E.M.

Truro

Mrs. M. E. Metz, Arncliffe, Carvedras.
B.B.

Cheshire

Wallasey

Mrs. Pumford, 32 St. James Road,
New Brighton.

Devon

Ottery St. Mary

Mrs. Verner, Weston House.

Paignton

Mrs. Dowell, 12 Howcroft Road, Preston.

Teignmouth

Mrs. M. Mallett, 9 Northumberland Place.
F.B.

Torquay

Mrs. E. J. Dart, 2 Congella Road,
Ellacombe. B.B.
Mrs. Watkinson, 61 Shirburn Road.

Dorset

Mrs. I. Shave, "Mount Pleasant",
West Street, Chickerell, near Weymouth.

Essex

Clacton

Mrs. Prior, 24 Page Road.

Southend-on-Sea

Mrs. L. Butter, 14 Quebec Avenue.
Mrs. M. Wilkins, Wooburn House,
9 Cromer Street. F.B.

Thorpe Bay

Mrs. E. Brown, 28 Shaftesbury Avenue.
Mrs. R. Wheale, 7 Bryant Avenue.
B.B.

Flint

Rhyl

Mrs. Cooke, "Havelon", Bettes Avenue,
Kinmel Bay.

Gloucestershire

Mrs. K. Wrenn, Eastcombe, near Stroud
(Cottage).

Hants

Bournemouth

Mrs. W. Mure, 47 Markham Road,
Winton. (Flatlet.)
Mrs. Scott, 32 Saxonbury Road.
Mrs. D. M. Taylor, Herne Villa,
4 Ophir Road. F.B.

Southsea

Mrs. Kendall, 21 Fernhurst Road.

Isle of Man

Douglas

Mrs. Colville, "Campbell House",
2 Harris Terrace.

Isle of Wight

Shanklin

Mrs. H. J. Adams, 2 Brook Road,
B.B. & E.M.
Mrs. Hayden, "Westwood",
13 St. Paul's Crescent.

Kent

Broadstairs

Mrs. W. H. Smith, "Harlow",
72 Stanley Road. F.B.

Folkestone

Mrs. Charlton, 8 Connaught Road.

Ramsgate

Mrs. E. M. Heath, Branston House,
79 Westgate Road.
Mrs. C. Powers, Park View,
91 Ellington Road. B.B. & E.M.

Westgate-on-Sea

Mrs. W. Wilcocks, Shenford Guest House,
Ethelbert Square.

London

Mrs. Evans, 141 Aukland Road,
Upper Norwood, S.E.19.
(Chalet.)

Northumberland

Whitley Bay

Mrs. M. Fellows, 46 Cauldwell Lane,
Monkseaton. F.B.

North Wales

Abergale

Mrs. A. Hadfield, "South View", Pensarn.
(Flat.)

Colwyn Bay

Mrs. B. Barlow, Blair Cottage,
Cherry Tree Lane, Upper Colwyn Bay.
F.B.
Mr. Barnswell, Family Holidays Ltd.,
Leonard House, Flansdowne Road.
Mrs. T. L. Jones, Tan-y-coed,
88 Park Road.

Dyserth

Mrs. J. Holmes, "Lynton", Cum Road.
F.B.

Llandudno

Mrs. D. Jaggard, 16 Dines Road.
F.B.

Pwllheli

Mrs. Adrian, "The Hermitage".
B.B.

Somerset

Minehead

Mrs. E. Dingvean, 37 Hill View Road.
F.B.

Nr. Wells

Mrs. P. L. Watts, St. Michael, Oxley.

Weston-super-Mare

Mr. J. Winter, 5 Old Junction Road,
Hutton.

Yeovil

Mrs. Farmer, 27 Sparrow Road.

Suffolk

Lowestoft

Mrs. H. Williams, "Sunnyside",
Rushmere. F.B.

Sussex

Chichester

Mrs. M. Roberts, 5 Grove Road,
F.B.
Mrs. G. Still, Non-Petz, Runcton.

Hastings

Mrs. C. Bayliss, "White Heather",
7 Warrior Road.

Lancing

Mrs. Elliott, 9 The Drive, Wellan Park.

St. Leonards-on-Sea

Mrs. Gallivan, 27 North Street.

Warwickshire

Birmingham

Mr. Robinson, 11 Hollington Crescent,
South Yardley.
(Caravans at Abergele and Rhyl.)

Yorks

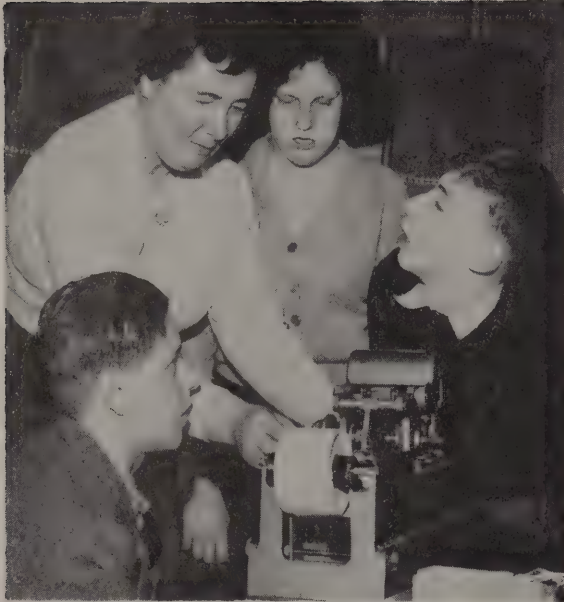
Scarborough

Mrs. J. Walker, "Southcrest",
7 Oriel Crescent, South Cliff.

ASSESSMENT COURSE VIII

Waddow Hall

Clitheroe



Mrs. V. S. Parker, supervisor of the William Turner Work Training Centre at Stockport, who spent three days with the students, demonstrates the use of a Tickopres machine. From left to right: Stuart Ineson, Margaret McConochie and Geoffrey Nixon

"I WISH we could get snowed up then we wouldn't have to go home!" This remark was made by one of the 31 young people, from all over the North of England and Midlands, who recently attended the Employment Department's 8th Assessment Course held this time at Waddow Hall, Clitheroe in Lancashire.

I am not sure that the members of the Employment Department staff and houseparents felt quite the same after 12 days' hard work; leading discussions, taking practical work, pushing wheelchairs round factories, showing films, taking part in concerts and panel games, entertaining speakers and visitors, and generally dealing with the 1,001 things that crop up on these courses. But still, the enthusiasm and keenness of the young people was most encouraging. Once again it made us realise how invaluable these courses are, both in providing a chance for us to get to know the students better, and in giving these young people opportunities to share ideas and learn new things.

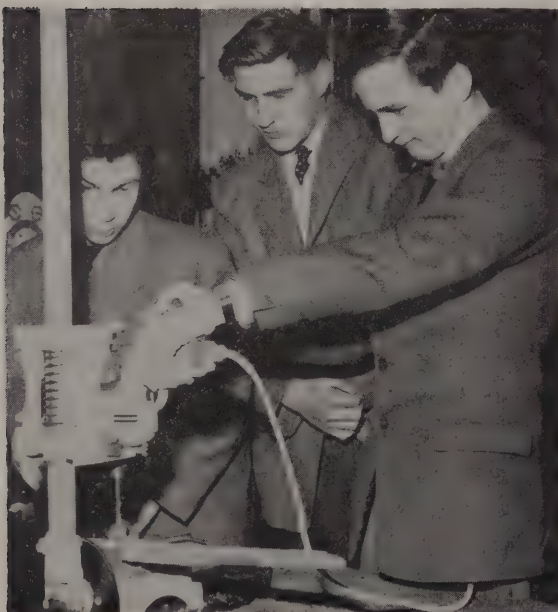
"I have learnt to tie my shoelaces." "I feel much more confident in talking to people now." "It was my first visit to a factory." "I can now serve meals and will tell my mother when I get home." "I did not realise before that I could make my bed!" "I dressed myself for the first time on my own today." "I felt useless when I came but now I know I have a future." All these comments were made by our students who have gone home determined to put into practice some of the things that they have learnt at Waddow Hall.

We found the hospitality in the north particularly kind and welcoming, and the employees in the factories that were visited took great trouble to explain their work to our inquisitive young people. In fact, we would have been quite lost without the help of our coach driver who came round everywhere with us and lifted all our more handicapped on and off the coach.

Mention ought also to be given of the complicated arrangements that had to be made by the patient staff in the Employment Department who had to plan the involved train journeys to and from Clitheroe. Even the local people admitted that it was one of the most difficult places to get to and from!

The highlights of the Course were probably the concert and farewell party, both entirely organised by the students. A duet composed and sung to the tune of "The Ballad of Bethnal Green" by Miss Richards and Mrs. Wynn was thoroughly appreciated by the students. So, of course, Miss Morgan, Mr. Hargreaves and Mr. Allman are now busy composing a reply to be sung as a trio at the next Course!

M. R. Morgan



From left to right: David Millington, Michael Knox and Tony Bonnett operate the power tools

Under the supervision of Mr. Horn, the housefather, a group of boys are busy stripping electrical equipment.



The Ballad of Assessment Course VII

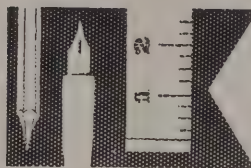
We thought that you would like to know
A little bit about the staff.
You may think that they're very very nice
But you don't know all by half.
They rush around with a constant frown
But when all is said and done
Although they say the work is hard
They've only come for fun.

Miss Morgan as you probably know
Has been given the care of us all,
And though you'd think she'd be highbrow
You wanna see her rock 'n roll.
With a Welsh-type roar she takes the floor
And we've even heard it said
Where another girl would twist and twirl,
She does a double somersault instead.

Mr. Hargreaves with his shiny bald head
Is the next one on our list
He mostly takes discussions
And he is a ventriloquist.
So if he tries to shoot a line,
Your attention he tries to grab,
It's all to be expected
For he's GOT the gift of the gab.

Mr. Allman with his turned-up nose
Is a terror with the girls it's said,
But in case you didn't already know
He plans very soon to wed,
And that is why he wants you on the tools
And takes you from the telephone;
He's got a lot of furniture to make
For he's busy setting up his home.

Now you'll have gathered from our rhyme
Those three don't get much done.
It's US wot's doing all the work
And THEM wot get's the fun.
They have the trick of appearing slick
And very very busy too:
But if you've a problem on your mind
Then *we're* the girls for you
Then *we're* the girls for you.



EMPLOYMENT CORNER

The latest news from the Employment Department is that:

Victor Beckett, from **Manchester**, who completed his training at Sherrards some time ago, is now working for a trial period with a large electrical firm in Manchester.

Gary Conway, from **Southampton**, has been placed with a local motor accessories firm after having worked in the local Group Workshop for some months.

Robert Lauder, from **Scotland**, who attended the Assessment Course at Irton Hall last year, is now employed near his home, embossing metal labels.

Dennis Marshall, from **Sutton**, is employed with a firm manufacturing electrical equipment in Leatherhead.

Cecilia Stockman, is now working as a telephonist-receptionist in Deal.

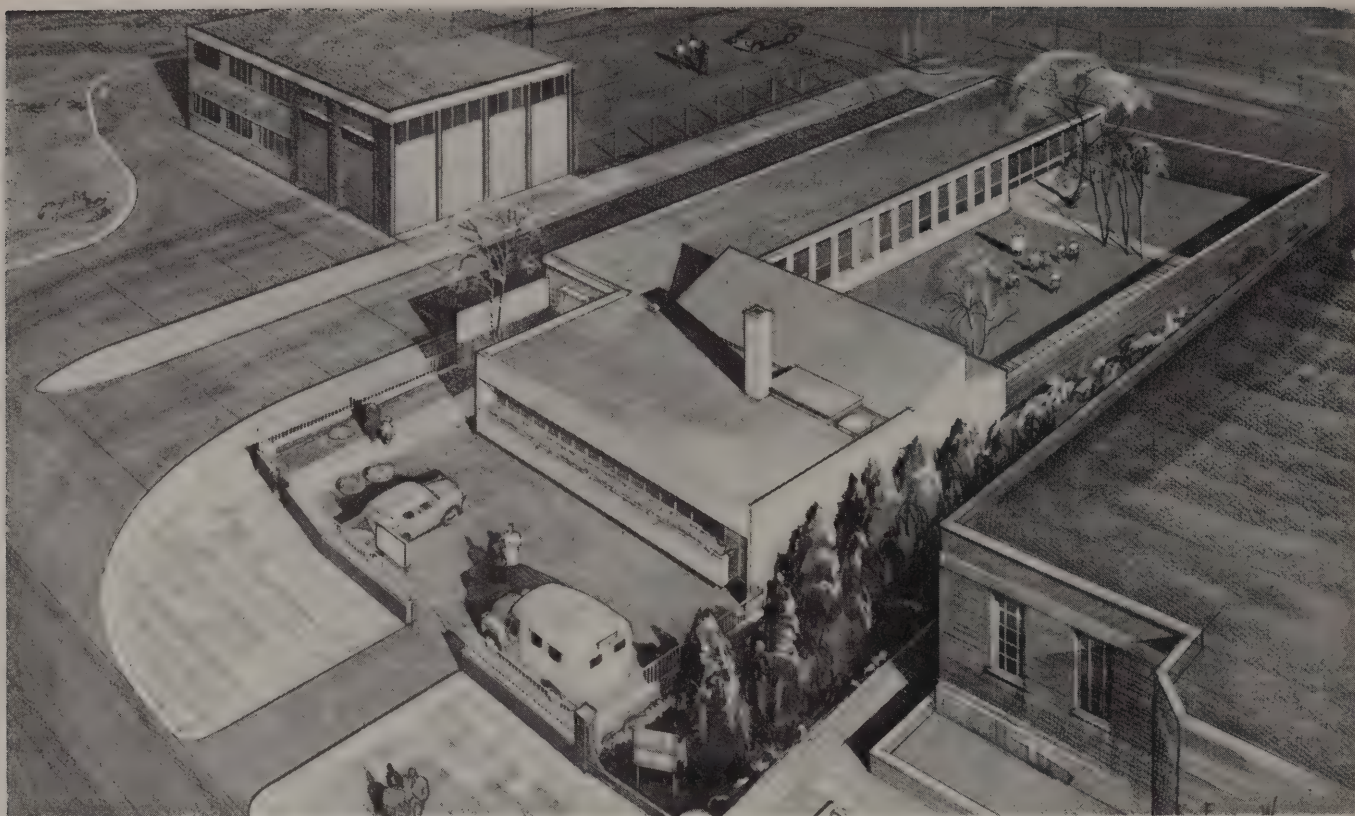
Robert Wollington, from **Bournemouth**, who attended the assessment course earlier this year, has been given a trial period of employment with a spectacle manufacturer.

Geoffrey Bland, **Janet Collins**, **Ronald Dickinson**, **Jill Marshall**, **Joyce Martin**, **Mavis Oxford**, **Kitty Pemberton**, **Stuart Sims**, **Roger Smee**, and **Joyce Thompson** have all recently joined the Homeworkers' Scheme and are sending us work for the handicraft shop.

HANDICRAFT SHOP

During the two months before Christmas nearly £150 worth of goods made by homeworkers and at work centres (including the home-printed Christmas cards) was sold at 105 Oxford Street. A New Year's Sale with genuine reductions was held to clear the old stock, and a varied selection of new items is being ordered from the homeworkers who now number 51 and live as far north as Cumberland and as far south as Plymouth.

Says Miss M. R. Morgan, "We are always pleased to welcome new homeworkers and should be glad to hear from any spastics who feel they would like to do this type of work."



A perspective drawing by Mr. Frank A. Weemys of the proposed Watford Centre

A CENTRE IN HAND

for Watford and District Group,
Hertfordshire Spastics Society

NOW the Watford & District Group of the Herts Spastics Society is soon to see its dearest wish come true.

A modern specialised treatment centre is to be built for the immediate use of some 30 spastics. Once established, however, this figure will rise and the centre will be available for people from Watford and many of the surrounding towns and villages within travelling distance, an area with an estimated population of 250,000.

Rather well-situated on a 65ft. by 160 ft. site between the new Garston Fire Station and the North Watford Library, the centre will cost £25,000 to build. Equipment costing £3,000 will be installed and it is estimated that the annual running costs will be £6,500.

The Watford and District Group have themselves raised well over £5,000 and a substantial increase in this amount will soon be forthcoming with help from the other groups in Herts. The total will no doubt amount to one-third of the capital cost. The money headache, however, is not yet over although the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board are going to provide £4,700 towards running costs and maintenance and the National Spastics Society will be contributing a substantial sum towards the capital cost.

At the moment there are virtually no facilities for spastics in the area. Treatment is also being carried out at hospitals and centres in London, often for only short periods and neither the school for the educationally sub-normal nor an occupation centre give extensive treatment. Facilities for adults are not very great either.

Watford intends to provide services for physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, nursery education and social welfare. Two groups will make use of the centre. Firstly the young children receiving daily general nursery care, education and treatment and secondly, older children, who may go to other schools but who will attend for treatment. In addition it is hoped to provide facilities for adults, in the evening and at weekends.

Where needed the services may be extended. A dental clinic is envisaged as well as the possibility of using the centre for assessment.

The architect is Oliver Carey who designed a single-storey L-shaped building. Provision has been made in the foundations and structure to allow for a second storey to be built in the future.

INSURANCE

Groups with centres owned, rented
or occupied even for short periods

NEED INSURANCE AGAINST

FIRE! FIRE!! FIRE!!!

BURGLARY HOUSEBREAKING THEFT

THIRD PARTY LIABILITY

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY

**RISKS ARISING FROM
ELECTRIC PLANT & BOILERS**

*Muir Beddall & Co. Ltd. of 37 Gracechurch
Street, E.C.3 who are the Society's Insurance
Brokers and have long experience of our needs
are prepared to give advice, help and service.
General advice always available from H.Q.
Staff.*

INSURANCE

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BOOK REVIEW

ONE OF THOSE CHILDREN

by
Elizabeth Neal

"THAT child will never be able to walk or talk. It is useless to leave him for observation, we can do nothing, Continue with the bromide and luminol and when he gets worse increase the dose slightly. There is nothing you can do but feed him and keep him warm . . . How long? Impossible to say. Possibly two or three years, possibly much less. I hope for your sake it is not long, but if they are well cared for those children can live a long time."

With these words from a doctor ringing in her ears Elizabeth Neal begins "One of Those Children" (George Allen and Unwin, 18s.), an unusual story of a spastic boy which will move and inspire you with its warmth and courage.

Little hope was offered to Mrs. Neal when she was told that her second son, Barry, was a spastic. The National Spastics Society had not been formed and she had no-one to turn to for help.

But Mrs. Neal needed little help, despite the fact that her husband was in the Army and she had to cope under war-time conditions with her active normal schoolboy son, Wally, and her handicapped boy.

With strength of character, mind and body, which shines through every page of this book, the author nursed, coaxed and guided her spastic son till he could speak, walk, read and reason. He even learned to swim and ride a bicycle. She gave Barry a future.

G.P.

SPASTICS NEWS DISTRIBUTION

NOTE TO READERS

Renewal Notices will be sent when subscription to the magazine is due. Would you please *not* forward payment until it is requested, as this causes complications in our records.

However, would all who have received notices of expired subscriptions and have not yet paid, please forward remittance as soon as possible. Otherwise it will be taken as a sign that you wish to discontinue your subscription and your name will be deleted accordingly.

With many thanks.

EDITOR.

Conclusion: Lecture Resumé No. 5

THE PSYCHIATRIST AND THE CEREBRAL PALSIED

by Dr. H. Mary Capes, M.B., D.P.M.,

Consultant Psychiatrist, Children's Hospital and the Child Guidance Clinic, Southampton

THE SCHOOL-AGED CHILD

LEARNING difficulties and specific disabilities have already been discussed, but there are one or two points of a more general nature which one might raise. The cerebral palsy child has the same basic emotional needs and suffers the same joys and agonies as any other child. Some children are under stress about their home life, about tension between their parents, or jealousy of brothers or sisters. It is possible to overlook these anxieties in concentrating on other therapeutic aspects.

The second point is in regard to boarding-schools. It has become increasingly evident in recent years that boarding-school life for the physically handicapped, such as the deaf for example, far from preparing patients later for work and for living in the community, has tended rather to isolate them. Such patients have often returned to their homes feeling as if they were strangers there and the neighbourhood was unexplored territory. A number of these handicapped people have been sent from home at three or four years of age, too early, just at the time when their warm feelings towards their parents and their confidence should be developing. They may then have been very happy in their boarding schools, but this

has not prepared them for the tremendous task of settling into the community afterwards.

When the relatively quiet phase of school-life gives way to adolescence, major emotional readjustments are necessary in order to achieve independence, to become a personality in one's own right, to succeed in a job and to consider marriage.

Cerebral palsy adolescents probably should be allowed a longer transitional phase before maturity is reached. Are they being helped sufficiently during this stage not only academically and in learning special skills, but in learning about growing up? Are they clear or are they confused about sex matters, about friendships with the opposite sex, about marriage, or possibly certain sad limitations they will have to face as they grow older?

Adolescents can gain a lot from exchanging ideas with each other, under the leadership of someone who encourages this and can stimulate interesting and lively discussions.

Lastly, it seems vital that employers should be given some opportunity to become more familiar with the problems and capacities of the cerebral palsy patient and to come to appreciate that there are few workers who are more loyal, steady, and reliable than they are when well adjusted and enthusiastic.



1930. Dora sits in the garden with her mother

I CAN MANAGE

by Dora Howell

CHAPTER I

I AM thinking of my past life, of 50 years ago. Looking back, I see joys and tears, love and pain. But it is only with love and kindness that one can keep going on.

My mother related the story of my birth to me, on the evening of my tenth birthday.

We were sitting round the fire and I was curious to know, why a complete cure could not be mine. My mother was sensible and did not build me up with fairy tales and false hopes—she told me that I could be quite a respectable member of society if I worked hard enough to overcome my disability.

She was a slight little lady, with a mop of gray curly hair; her big blue eyes spoke volumes when she smiled. That evening she looked tired and very sad as she looked at me, her youngest child, unable to walk alone and with very little use in my hands.

My father was resting in an armchair by the fire. He was a short, sturdy man with smiling blue eyes. By trade he was a coach painter and though we always had enough to eat and were well clothed, there was no money for luxuries.

He and mother disagreed about our shoes. Father always bought hob-nailed boots for his children. Mother liked us to wear shoes and look nice on Sundays. At night she would sit up making clothes for us all.

My father was not very hopeful about me getting better and he worried a lot about the way my mother wasted her time and strength on me, a hopeless case, to his way of thinking. Nevertheless, he was a good father and they loved each other dearly.

As he lay there sleeping peacefully in his chair, she went across and kissed him softly on the forehead, saying quietly to me, "If only he could hear, I *know* I could make him understand." She gave a deep sigh, for he had been stone deaf for years.

Mother took me on her lap and looked round at the cosy room. It was large and furnished comfortably as a sitting room, with an old-fashioned upright piano and many oil paintings hung on the cream papered walls.

I was a fair curly-haired girl, very undersized, with a head that flopped from side to side.

"Why is my little girl looking sad today? Tell mother, dear. She will understand."

I remember feeling rather ashamed of myself but as she drew me close I opened my heart and told her all about it.

"Mother, *why* can't I get really well like other little girls?" She looked at me with such sad eyes. "Ah, I *knew* this would come" she sighed.

"You remember the large house at Leytonstone where you were born? I was very excited about having another baby and your sister, Ada, was helping me with the preparations. During the flurry of activity five-year-old Harry and three-year-old Reggie drank half a bottle of chlorodyne. The doctor came and eventually all was well. But with all the excitement you, my poor darling, came 24 hours after.

"When you were born you were so beautiful, and weighed 12½ pounds. But the doctor thought you wouldn't live, or me either. He went and told father, who said 'For God's sake save my wife'. But thank God he saved us both."

I looked up in my mother's face and said "Do you mean that mummy?"

She pressed me closer to her. "I *do* darling, with all my heart. And one day you are going to be not only a help to me, but to others too."

"You grew into a lovely baby, but I noticed you hadn't the activity that babies have. When you were ten months old I took you to Aunt Elizabeth to tea and your two little cousins, Ethel and Maud, used to love to put you in their doll's pram and play 'Mothers and Fathers.'

"Auntie and I had a talk about you. She said I was worrying about nothing and you were surely all right. When Ethel came rushing in and said, 'Oh, Auntie, doesn't baby Dora want some starch in her, she is so floppy?'" I said, "I knew it, I knew it! Tomorrow I go to Guy's Hospital. I shed a lot of tears, but the next morning very early I took you to the hospital to meet a specialist. After four hours of examination he came and told me that you were a spastic and that you would never walk or talk. I didn't cry, darling, but I looked him straight in the face and said, 'My baby *will* talk and walk'. He smiled at me, 'Brave mother, if you say she will, she *WILL*, but you must be prepared, she might be abnormal.' How wrong he was."

"So, my darling, I brought you home and told the family. They were all so kind and helpful and said they would love you more than ever. But now my little girl must go to bed."

After tucking me up in bed a goodnight kiss, mother blessed me saying, "One day you will be laughing at all this sadness."

She turned off the gas and went shuffling out into the darkness.

CHAPTER II

FOR the next ten years mother was taking me to and from hospital. The progress was slow but sure. she saw that I did my exercises daily, standing me up against a wall and making me bend and stretch, singing a little song, "Hands and shoulders, knees and toes." Often I would fall, but I

was put back and made to keep at it until gradually I began to walk.

When I was quite small, I was a pitiful little object with a wide open mouth. Whenever mother took me out in a chair other people stared; I cried, often, but mother's brave heart never faltered. She looked at me and said, "Darling, do stop that little lullaby. All the flies will get down your tum-tum."

I would grin at her with my mouth tightly shut. Gradually this phase was overcome and she would make faces and laugh with me until my face became normal. Her laughter became reflected in my face.

All through the ten years mother had been my teacher. I knew how to read and at the age of eight spoke my first word. Father had made a special high chair so that I could sit at the table and play with toys. Unfortunately, one day my favourite doll fell to the floor. I started a big "Damn".

Mother was washing up in the kitchen and she said, "What did you say dear?" I repeated it twice. Her face was a picture of delight and amusement. "Darling, you *can* talk," and knelt down beside me, "and now say, 'my Mum'". She repeated the word several times and at last I shouted out "Mum".

As I lay thinking of all this, my sister, Nellie, heard me mumbling and got out of bed to come over to me. "What are you talking about dear? Are you crying?" I said, "No, I am thinking of all mummy has done for me and Nellie I do want to get well."

She looked at me. "You silly kid. Aren't we all trying to get you well, and don't you know that we all love you? We are going to take you to the hospital tomorrow to see an eminent specialist. I'm sure with our prayers, some good will come of it."

Nellie had dark hair and a beautiful complexion, she was tall and slight for 15. Though very affectionate in her ways, she was very excitable which often got her into trouble.

The next day we went to hospital as arranged and waited in a private room.

At mid-day we saw the specialist with the student doctors. I was stripped to the waist and had to sit in the middle of the room while he talked about me for an hour.

When he had gone I looked into my mother's face and said, "Mummy, I heard him say I *will* walk, but I must be cut."

She looked at me with a serious face and said, "Don't worry about it darling, just leave it to doctor". But she saw I was excited.

Eventually the specialist said to mother, "I think we have good news for you." Then he had a long conversation with mother, that lasted about half-an-hour. Meanwhile he gave me what I thought was a half-penny. When they had gone, mother looked very serious, but I was so excited I said, "Look mother, I have a half-penny for being a good girl." She took it from me and said, "Darling it is half a sovereign, now you can do what you like with it." She drew me into her lap and said "Now my pet I want to have a talk with you—the doctor is coming back in a quarter of an hour and he says he can make you quite well *if* you have your ankles cut. It means, darling, that you will have to be in hospital for a whole year. He says that you *will* walk, like other little girls." I tried to put my arm round her neck. "Oh mummy I want it done," I said. "Please say 'yes'. I know I shall miss you and everybody very much but I'll make up for it

Dr. Hurst came back with a smiling face, "Well, mother, have you made the decision?" he said. "Yes, we both want and need your help." I chimed in, "Please, doctor, do it quickly."

He left mother and me with a happy smile. She dressed me between hugs, kisses and tears. All the time I was saying "I shall walk mother, walk mother, like you."

Then there was a tiny tap at the door and sister peeped in. "Your youngest daughter has arrived to help you back with Dora," she said.

Nellie, who always used to give me pick-a-backs came in with a very grave face but my first words to her were, "Nellie, I am *going* to walk."

She flung her hat and bag on the floor and came over nearly pulling me off my chair in her excitement. When I told her it meant an operation she cried hysterically but I made them all laugh by saying "Shut up" loudly. "It's my ankles, not yours, they are cutting."



Dora at Woodlarks Camp last summer

All the way home we were talking about our new plans. The only thing that mother worried about was what father would say. He hated the thought of operations and his consent had to be given.

On arriving home everyone was sitting at their evening meal. My second sister, Elsie, who was three years younger than Ada, presided. She had beautiful curly mid-brown hair, dark hazel eyes and a sweet mouth.

The family chorused, "Well, what is the news?" Then I said, "Boys and girls I am going to walk." They all listened while my mother told them all about it. Father said, "I don't like the idea of the operation, but mother knows best about that."

They all crowded round me like bees round a honey pot. I became very rich that night in shillings and sixpences. My two young brothers were very sweet and said, "Darling, we will always look after you."

This seemed very strange as they were usually such chips of mischief and were, quite unknown to them, partly the cause of the suffering.

Reggie was a short stocky little chap with a mischievous face. Harry was tall and slim; really quite handsome and always very lovable, though shy.

He used to take me for miles in my bath chair and often he and Reggie would take me into the fields and try to teach me to walk.

Lily, my third sister, was trying to get a word in edgeways with me. She said, "When you have all finished with her I would like to congratulate her." Like her name, Lily was very fair and had a sweet nature, although she could be very selfish at times. She would often take me on her lap, play the piano and sing to me.

Len and Charlie, my older brothers, who were sitting at the table, would say "Good Dora, we will always stand by you."

Charles was the oldest, with very clear cut features, and a very dry humour.

Len was rather stout, and a very sweet gentle boy.

Later in the evening some visitors looked in to hear the news and all said how brave I was.

CHAPTER III

I COULDN'T see anything brave about wanting to walk again. The only thing I grieved about was the thought of leaving my home.

That night alone in my bedroom I struggled for some while until I could sit up on the side of my bed and said a little prayer, asking God to let me undress. Then I tried to pull my socks off. After pulling and pulling one came.

I was so pleased I fell back on the bed again, but *no* I would not be beaten! I was going to get well and begin now. So I crawled down near to the bottom of my bed and thought, "Can I stand?" and said, "Please God help me," He did. I stood up and pulled some of my clothes down.

I sank back on my bed exhausted. Now there was my other sock to attack. I pulled and pulled again but my hand slipped banging me hard in the face, but the sock was in my hand. I had done it! I gave a hysterical laugh. Mummy came running upstairs. "Whatever are you doing, my little girl?" she said. When she saw my clothes about the room she cried out excitedly: "Oh, *thank God*, but how did you do it?"

After she had left me, I lay there in a maze. Would I ever get well? Perhaps without the operation? I felt that perhaps it was not necessary. I was half asleep when my sisters Nellie and Lily came into the room on tiptoe. I heard them say, "Won't it be funny without her when she goes?" "It will be horrible," replied Nellie. Then I fell into a lovely sleep feeling that everybody wanted me.

I awoke next morning refreshed and happy and wondered if it had all been a dream.

Then mother came into the room, gave me my clothes and *made* me dress myself.

It was a terrific effort. I could not get the dress over my head, but eventually managed it by hanging it on the bed-post, putting my arms in first and wriggling my head into it. Mother was delighted with my efforts.

Eagerly I asked, "Could I try to get downstairs without the usual pick-a-back?"

"Well, we can have a go, dear," she replied and held me round the waist so that I could walk forward, but when I reached the first stair I became nervous and we both nearly fell. "Come on, let me get you on my back," she said.

But I was determined to try. I clung to the rail with all my might thinking I must do it, I *will* do it; and I did, very gradually but surely.

On the breakfast table there was an important looking letter for mother. The content was that a lady would be calling to see me regarding going to an Invalids' School.

"Oh darling, won't it be lovely?" said mother. "No more lonely days for you dear and no more imaginary friends." It had been my habit to have "make believe" friends and try to talk to them. This had disturbed mother considerably.

The charming visitor came and went and dressed in the prettiest new dress next morning mother took me to the school.

Before we left the boys had shouted, "Behave yourself, say yes teacher and no teacher and wipe your nose."

None of the children of the school seemed quite so helpless as I was and my heart sank a little, but mother squeezed my hand in encouragement.

There were four classes and after an interview with the doctor I was wheeled into my classroom. On a couch in front of the fire lay a little girl. She looked very pale but had lovely dark blue eyes and gave me such a friendly smile. I felt as if I would like to have her for a friend. Her name was Alice and I learned that she had heart trouble. Later she did play a large part in my life. The teacher was looking at me very kindly and when I was settled in my chair she came to me and said, "So, you are Dora. I hope you are as good as you look in that pretty frock and pinafore." I thought the same about her.

Alice sat next to me at lunch, "I'm hungry, are you?" she said.

"No," I replied because I was worried as I could not feed myself.

This was soon remedied by dear Alice helping spoon the food into my mouth.

The long day was over and one of the drivers came over and spoke to me. "I'm going to take you home. Perhaps you'd like to make friends with Jessie the horse?"

"Oh, I would. I love horses," I said. We were introduced over a piece of sugar.

"Ah, she's kissing you, she likes you."

I felt so happy, I had found two friends, Alice and the horse! When I told her she said, "Well, don't class *me* as a horse."

The driver lifted me into the carriage with four other children and to my surprise they all began talking to me and asked me how I enjoyed the first day.

"Not much, because I can't help myself," I said.

They all said together, "We'll help you."

I was taken home first and it was lovely to sit in the carriage and hear the clip-clop of the horse's feet.

Mother was waiting at the door. The children were already calling to me, "Goodbye Dora, see you tomorrow."

"Well, darling," asked mother, "how did you like it?" "Oh, the beginning and middle was horrible but the end was lovely." I told her all the events of the day.

"Never mind, darling," she said. "You will pull through like you *always* will, I know. But soup, meat and sweet all for 2½d. I can't get over it."

My father was delighted with my day. He gave me a packet of pencils, telling me I could have a shilling for the first word I could write. He had never taken so much interest. Gradually I began to like my school. Alice and I were very good friends. Often she came home to tea with me and sometimes I went to tea with her. Mother still continued with my exercises and I was gaining strength and confidence every day. The children at school helped me by making me hold a pencil and form words by guiding my hand. I printed MUM and DAD. When I showed it to my father he said, "Ha! ha! I knew you would," and gave me a big kiss and a shilling.

(To be continued)

Group Alterations

New Officials:

FOLKESTONE & DISTRICT BRANCH

Hon. Secretary:
Mrs. E. PUNNETT,
6 Wingate Road,
Folkestone.

In the February issue MRS. D. WINSLEY was incorrectly shown as Hon. Secretary of the above Branch. MRS. WINSLEY is, in fact, Hon. Secretary of the ISLE OF THANET GROUP.

STOCKPORT, EAST CHESHIRE & HIGH PEAK SPASTICS SOCIETY

Chairman:
H. TOMLINSON, Esq.,
"Sundial House",
Moor End Road,
Mellor, Nr. Marple Bridge.

General Secretary:
W. MULLIGAN, ESQ.,
Granville House,
20 Parsonage Road,
Heaton Moor, Stockport,
Cheshire.

CORBY & DISTRICT SPASTICS SOCIETY

All correspondence for the above Group should be addressed, until further notice to:
J. E. WHITLAM, Esq.,
3 Welland Vale Road,
Corby, Northants.

Corrections:

SOUTH-WEST SURREY GROUP

The correct address of MR. C. RICE, Hon. Secretary of the above Group is:—
Clinton,
Nightingale Avenue,
West Horsley, Surrey.

WATFORD & DISTRICT GROUP

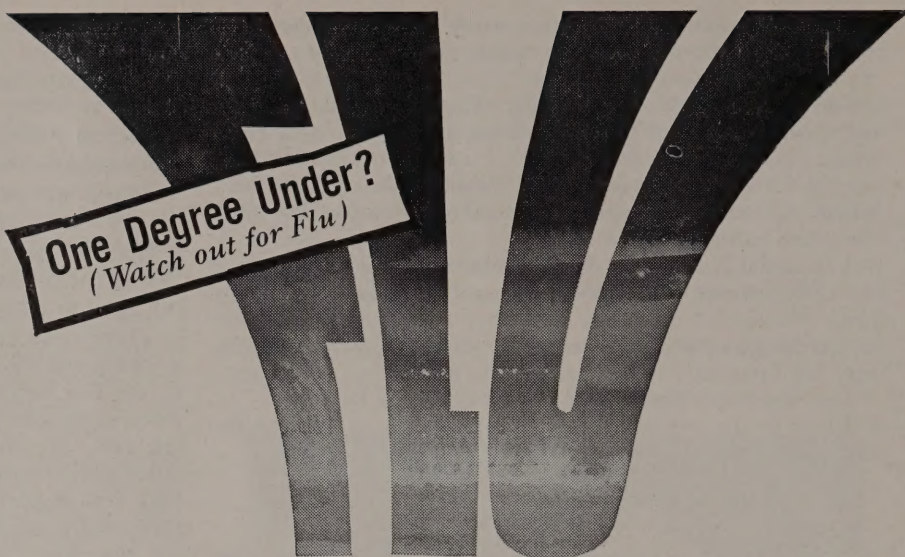
The telephone number of MR. L. V. HOLLAND, Hon. Secretary of the above Group is now:—
WATFORD 6193 and not Gadesbrook 6193.

Classified Ads.

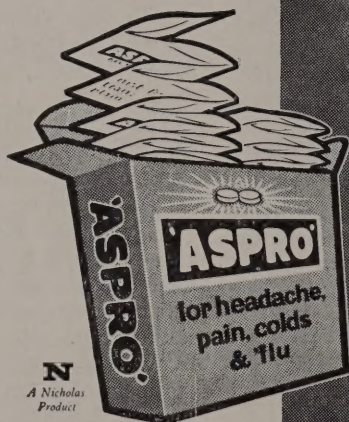
SITUATION VACANT

Speech Therapist for May, 1961
at Irton Hall School, Holmrook,
Cumberland.

A VACANCY will occur for a Speech Therapist interested in combining this work with the educational programme, about 24 children requiring treatment singly or in very small groups. There will be a purpose designed therapy room in a new school block. The post may be resident or non-resident. Whitley Council Scale. School holidays. The school is sited in a picturesque part of the Lake District and consequently is a little isolated. Transport is available to buses and stations. Apply to the Headmaster.



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SECONDHAND tricycle with two wheels in front and one behind, backpedal brake, and three-speed. Suitable for mobile adult spastic. Price, £15 or near offer. Apply Mrs. Harvey, White House, Penn, High Wycombe, Bucks.

N.S.S. Regions

Disposition of the Groups

Chief Regional Officer

(A. M. Frank, M.C., M.A., 28 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1)

Eastern Region

(Harry G. Knight, 58 Park Road, Peterborough, Northants. Tel: Peterborough 67045)

Chesterfield and District Spastics Society
Corby and District Branch
Derby and District Branch of NSS
Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Friends of Spastics Society
Ipswich and East Suffolk Spastics Society
Leicester and Leicestershire Spastics Society
Lincoln Branch
Mansfield and District Friends of Spastics Group
Norfolk and Norwich Spastic Association
Northampton and County Branch
Nottingham Friends of Spastics Group (Sub-Committee of Nottingham District Cripples Guild)
Peterborough and District Group
Scunthorpe and District Spastic Society
Stamford Branch

Midland Region

(Officer to be appointed in 1961)

Cannock Chase Spastic Association
Coventry and District Spastics Society
Dudley and District Spastic Group
Ludlow and District Spastics Society
North Staffordshire Spastic Association
Shrewsbury and District Spastics Group
Stafford and District Spastics Association
Worcester and District Branch

North Region

(Roland J. F. Whyte, N.S.S. Trevelyan Chambers, 7 Boar Lane, Leeds, 1. Tel: Leeds 33933)

Barnsley and District Association
Bradford and District Branch
Burnley Area and Rossendale Spastics Society
Castleford and District Spastics Committee
Darlington and District Spastics Society
Dewsbury and District Spastics Society
Goole and District Spastics Association
Halifax and District Spastic Group
Hull Group, The Friends of the Spastics Society in Hull and District
Leeds and District Spastics Society
Ponterfract and District Spastics Society
Rawmarsh and Parkgate Spastics Society
Sheffield and District Spastics Society
Sunderland and District Spastics Society
Tees-side Parents and Friends of Spastics
York and District Spastics Group
(Thos. H. Keighley, 42 Goldsworthy Road, Flixton, Urmston, Manchester)

Birkenhead Spastic Children's Society
Blackburn and District Group
Blackpool and Fylde Spastic Group
Bolton and District Group
Chester and District Spastics Association
Crewe and District Spastics Society
Crosby and District Spastics Society
Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastics Society
Furness and District Spastic and Handicapped Children's Society
Lancaster, Morecambe and District Group
Manchester and District Spastics Society
Oldham and District Spastic Society
Preston and District Group
Sale, Altrincham and District Spastics Society
Southport, Formby and District Spastics Society
Stockport, East Cheshire and High Peak Spastics Society
Urmston and District Group
Warrington and District Group for the Welfare of Spastics
Widnes Spastic Fellowship Group

Northern Home Counties Region

(Robert C. Lemarie, Woodlands, 1 Melbourne Road, Bushey, Herts. Tel: Bushey Heath 2758)

Bedford and District Branch of NSS
Bishop's Stortford Group, Herts Spastics Society
Central Middlesex Spastics Welfare Society
Clacton and District Group
Colchester and District Group
East Herts Group, Herts Spastics Society
East London Spastic Society
Epping Forest and District Branch of NSS
Essex Group
Harlow and District Branch
Hatfield Group, Herts Spastics Society
Hemel Hempstead Group, Herts Spastics Society
Hitchin and District Friends of Spastics
Ilford and District Spastics Association
Luton and District Spastics Group
Maidenhead Friends of Spastics Group
North London Area Association of Parents and Friends of Spastics
North-West London Group
Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Society
Reading and District Spastics Welfare Society
Slough and District Spastics Welfare Society
Southend-on-Sea and District Spastics Society
South-West Middlesex Group
St. Albans and District Group, Herts Spastics Society
Walthamstow and District Spastics Society

Watford and District Group, Herts Spastics Society
Welwyn Garden City and District Group, Herts Spastics Society
Wycombe and District Spastics Society

South-East Region

(Simon T. Langley, 137 Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Tel: Tunbridge Wells 21980)

Bournemouth, Poole and District Spastic Society
Brighton, Hove and District Branch
Central Surrey Group
Croydon and District Branch
East Sussex Group (Hastings and District)
Folkestone and District Branch of NSS
Isle of Wight Group
Maidstone Area Spastic Group
Medway Towns Branch of NSS
North Hants and West Surrey Group
North Surrey Group (Kingston)
North-West Kent Spastic Group
North-West Surrey Group
Portsmouth and District Spastic Society
Southampton and District Spastics Association
South-East London Group
South-East Surrey (Redhill) Spastics Group
South London Group
South-West London and District Group
South-West Surrey Group
Thanet Group
Tunbridge Wells Area Group
West Kent Spastics Society—Incorporating Bromley and District Spastics Group

Welsh Region (including Mon.)

(Brian Kingsley-Davies, Delfryn, Clevedon Avenue, Sully, Glam. Tel: Sully 384)

Cardiff and District Spastics Association
Colwyn Bay and District Spastics Society
Conway and District Branch of NSS
Kenfig Hill and District Spastics Society
Merthyr Tydfil and District Spastics Society
Pontypridd and District Group of NSS
Swansea and District Spastics Association

Western Region

(John J. Walch, St. John House, Park Street, Taunton, Somerset. Tel: Taunton 81678)

Bridgwater and District Friends of Spastics Association
Bristol Spastics Association
Cheltenham Spastic Aid Association
Plymouth Spastic (CP) Association
Swindon and District Spastic Society
Jersey Branch, Channel Islands.

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